



SPECIALIST TEACHING CREDENTIALS IN READING AND LANGUAGE ARTS

Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential

The Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential authorizes the holder to provide the following services as a reading specialist in any grade level K-12, or in classes organized for adults:

1. Assist and support the classroom teacher in reading instruction and teaching strategies
2. Select and adapt reading instruction materials; plan and conduct reading staff development
3. Assess student progress and monitor student achievement in reading
4. Provide direct reading intervention work with students
5. Develop and coordinate reading programs at the school, district, or county level

Requirements for the Credential

The Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential may be issued to any teacher who satisfies **all** of the following requirements:

1. Possession of a valid California teaching credential requiring a bachelor's or higher degree and a program of professional preparation, including student teaching, with a grade of "C" or better
2. Completion of a Commission-accredited program
3. Recommendation of a California college or university with an approved reading specialist program (see list below)

For Specialists Trained Outside of California

Reading and language arts specialists who completed their professional preparation at a regionally accredited college or university outside of California must verify the following requirements:

1. Possession of a valid California teaching credential requiring a bachelor's or higher degree and a program of professional preparation, including student teaching, with a grade of "C" or better
2. Completion of a professional preparation program in the area of reading and language arts, including student teaching (Applicants who received a "pass," "credit," or "satisfactory" are assumed to have completed their student teaching or field work at a level equivalent to, or higher than, a grade of "C.")
3. Provide verification of issuance, or eligibility for, certification in the state where the program was completed

If the out-of-state preparation does not meet these requirements, the applicant should contact a California college or university with a Commission-accredited reading and language arts specialist program for a recommendation or advice about completing the requirements for the credential.

References: California Education Code, Section 44265 and Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Sections 80066

Institutions with Commission-Accredited Reading and Language Arts Credential Programs

California State University System

CSU, Bakersfield
CSU, Chico
CSU, Fresno
CSU, Fullerton
CSU, Hayward
CSU, Long Beach
CSU, Los Angeles
CSU, Northridge
CSU, Sacramento
CSU, San Bernardino
CSU, San Francisco
CSU, San Marcos
CSU, Stanislaus

California State University System (cont.)

San Diego State University
San Jose State University
Sonoma State University

University of California System

UC Berkeley

Private Colleges/Universities

Fresno Pacific University
St. Mary's College
University of LaVerne

Restricted Specialist Teaching Credential in Reading

The Restricted Specialist Teaching Credential in Reading authorizes service as a reading specialist in kindergarten and grades 1 through 6, and is available directly from the Commission only to reading specialists who previously held the Miller-Unruh Reading Specialist Certificate.

For initial issuance of the restricted credential, applicants must satisfy **all** of the following requirements:

1. Possession of a valid California teaching credential requiring a bachelor's degree and teacher preparation, including student teaching
2. Possession of a Miller-Unruh Reading Certificate issued prior to June 30, 1987
3. Verification from current or previous employers of three years of teaching experience, including at least one year in a reading specialist position within the last five years
4. Official transcripts showing completion of **all** of the following college or university courses:
 - a. a basic course in the teaching of elementary school reading
 - b. a basic course in the teaching of elementary school language
 - c. a basic course in the diagnosis and remediation of reading
 - d. a course in directed clinical practice in the remediation of reading disabilities

► *These courses may be taken at any regionally accredited four-year college or university. If the content is covered by fewer than four courses, or if the content is not clear from the course titles, course descriptions from the catalog or the head of the education department will be required.*
5. Payment of fee (The fee for initial issuance of this credential is one half of the current application fee.)

The term of a clear specialist instruction credential is determined by the expiration date of the prerequisite teaching credential held, but may not exceed five calendar years.

References: California Education Code, Section 44265 and Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Sections 80048 and 80048.1